



JMG BEST PRACTICES

Please share your JMG Best Practices that are innovative, sustainable, and replicable.

Mail, Email, or Fax this form using the contact information at the bottom of the form.

TITLE:	House of Cards
PARTICIPANT CONTACT CLASSIFICATION	<input type="checkbox"/> AR ~ Academic Remediation <input type="checkbox"/> CA ~ Career Association <input type="checkbox"/> CS ~ Community Service <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ES ~ Employability Skills <input type="checkbox"/> FT ~ Field Trips/Guest Speakers <input type="checkbox"/> GC ~ Guidance Counseling <input type="checkbox"/> OT ~ Other <input type="checkbox"/> WL ~ Work Based Learning
GROUP SIZE:	Small Group (under 10) Medium Group (11-30) Large Group (Greater than 30)
PARTNERS:	“Team Building with Teens” by Mariam G. MacGregor, M.S.

Description:

Part 1: Divide the group into two or more smaller teams, with five to eight members. You will have 15 minutes to create your houses, using only the cards. You may not use table legs, chairs, books, tape, paper clips or whatever to help support. Two rules: 1) you can not communicate verbally with each other to accomplish your goal....no talking, grunting, humming or other sounds. 2) you can't draw or illustrate any of your ideas. You have only the fifteen minutes to finish the house. If it falls at any time during those fifteen minutes, start over. Giving up isn't an option. You want everyone in your group to be satisfied with the final structure.

Debriefing: What was it like to have to work in silence with your team to accomplish your goal? What techniques did you rely on to communicate? How did you know when everyone in your group was satisfied and had achieved its goal? How did your group deal with frustration? Did you feel like you were competing against the other groups? Why or why not?

Part 2: Now you will work as a whole team, connecting the structures together using more cards. The rules of nonverbal communication with no writing or drawing still apply. The connecting structure must also be three-dimensional, with no other support systems. Again, the connection is not complete until everyone in the group is satisfied. Allow 10-15 minutes for teams to work together to accomplish this.

Debriefing: This time, what was it like to be told the goal and to have to work with the entire group to accomplish it? How did your group know when everyone was satisfied and had achieved the goal? Did anyone emerge as a leader? Who and why? How did the attitude of competition change when working on the goal this time? How would this activity have been different if you could have communicated verbally?

Supplies: I used pieces of wood that we had from a building kit because I didn't have all those cards. I think any materials that you can build with would be appropriate.

Competencies:

J104, K110, N119, P127

School Name	Dutton/Brady
Specialist Name	Tedi Bishop
Phone/Email	406-476-3424